

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/437,304

Examiner

Quang N. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

BOYER ET AL.

Art Unit

2141

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Amendment filed on 08/08/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4,12,13,15,23,24,26 and 34-45.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                    |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance              |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

***Examiner's Amendment***

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with the Applicant's Representative, Mr. Richard M. Feustel, Jr. (Reg. No. 46,698), on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2006.

3. Please amend claims 1, 12 and 23 as below:

**Claim 1. (Currently amended)** A method for providing a user with personalized schedule information for television-related, ~~and~~ non-television-related and personal-related events, comprising:

providing the user with an opportunity to select at least one television-related information source from a plurality of television-related information sources for providing television program listings for the television-related events;

providing the user with an opportunity to specify first criteria for delivering **the** television program listings **for the television-related events** from the at least one selected television-related information source;

providing the user with an opportunity to select at least one non-television-related information source from a plurality of non-television-related information sources for providing schedule information for non-televised events;

providing the user with an opportunity to specify second criteria for delivering **the** schedule information **for non-televised events** from the at least one selected non-television-related information source;

**providing the user with an opportunity to enter scheduling information for an event personal to the user;**

providing the user with an opportunity to select a delivery scheme from a plurality of delivery schemes for delivering the personalized schedule information, wherein the personalized schedule information includes the television program listings **for the television-related events** based on the first specified criteria, and the schedule information for non-televised events based on the second specified criteria, **and the user entered scheduling information;**

generating the personalized schedule information; and

delivering the personalized schedule information to the user based on the delivery scheme selected by the user.

**Claim 12. (Currently amended)** An on-line scheduling application system in which users—~~are~~ a user is provided with personalized schedule information for television-related, ~~and~~ non-television-related and personal-related events, comprising:

means for providing the user with an opportunity to select at least one television-related information source from a plurality of television-related information sources for providing television program listings for the television-related events;

means for providing the user with an opportunity to specify first criteria for delivering the television program listings for the television-related events from the at least one selected television-related information source;

means for providing the user with an opportunity to select at least one non-television-related information source from a plurality of non-television-related information sources for providing schedule information for non-televised events;

means for providing the user with an opportunity to specify second criteria for delivering the schedule information for non-televised events from the at least one selected non-television-related information source;

means for providing the user with an opportunity to enter scheduling information for an event personal to the user;

means for providing the user with an opportunity to select a delivery scheme from a plurality of delivery schemes for delivering the personalized schedule information, wherein the personalized schedule information includes the television program listings for the television-related events based on the first specified criteria, ~~and~~ the schedule

information for non-televised events based on the second specified criteria, **and the user entered scheduling information;**

means for generating the personalized schedule information; and

means for delivering the personalized schedule information to the user based on the delivery scheme selected by the user.

**Claim 23. (Currently amended)** An on-line scheduling application in which users are **a user is** provided with personalized schedule information for television-related, and non-television-related **and personal-related** events, comprising:

a scheduling system comprising:

a data server configured to provide television-related and non-television-related scheduling information, wherein the television-related scheduling information includes television program times, television channels, and television program titles; and

a transmission server configured to provide the information from the data server to a server for delivery to the user; and

a multimedia system configured to:

provide the user with an opportunity to select at least one television-related information source from a plurality of television-related information sources **for providing television program listings for the television-related events;**

provide the user with an opportunity to specify first criteria for delivering **the** television program listings **for the television-related events** from the at least one selected television-related information source;

provide the user with an opportunity to select at least one desired non-television-related information source from a plurality of non-television-related information sources for providing schedule information for non-televised events;

provide the user with an opportunity to specify second criteria for delivering **the** schedule information **for non-televised events** from the at least one selected non-television-related information source;

**provide the user with an opportunity to enter scheduling information for an event personal to the user;**

provide the user with an opportunity to select a delivery scheme from a plurality of delivery schemes for delivering the personalized schedule information, wherein the personalized schedule information includes the television program listings **for the television-related events** that are obtained by the data server from the at least one selected television-related information source based on the first specified criteria, and the schedule information for non-televised events obtained by the data server from the at least one selected non-television-related information source based on the second specified criteria, **and the user entered scheduling information;**  
and

receive **and deliver** the personalized schedule information to the user, wherein the personalized schedule information is delivered to the user based on the delivery scheme selected by the user.

4. Claims 1-2, 4, 12-13, 15, 23-24, 26 and 34-45 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In interpreting the claims, in light of the specification and the applicant's arguments filed on 08/08/2006, the Examiner finds the claimed invention to be patentably distinct from the prior art of records.

**Gerace (US 5,848,396)** discloses (i) a data assembly for displaying customized agate information (*such as the Media Schedule Page*) to a computer user, (ii) a tracking and profiling member for recording user activity with respect to agate information displayed through the data assembly (**Gerace, col. 2, lines 6-15**). **Gerace** also discloses that the system may send messages/notices, warnings and alerts to the screen of the user's PC or via email (**Gerace, col. 17, lines 18-52**).

**Schein et al. (US 6,388,714)** discloses a system and method for providing television schedule and/or listing information to a viewer, and for allowing the viewer to link, search, select and interact with information in a remote database. The television schedule and/or listing information can be displayed on a variety of viewer interfaces, such as televisions screens, computer monitors, PCTV screens and the like (**Schein, Abstract and col. 5, lines 50-65**).

However, the prior art of records fail to teach or suggest individually or in combination that a computer system and method providing a user with personalized schedule information for television-related, non-television-related and personal-related

events, comprising: providing the user with an opportunity to select at least one television-related information source from a plurality of television-related information sources for providing television program listings for the television-related events; providing the user with an opportunity to specify first criteria for delivering the television program listings for the television-related events from the at least one selected television-related information source; providing the user with an opportunity to select at least one non-television-related information source from a plurality of non-television-related information sources for providing schedule information for non-televised events; providing the user with an opportunity to specify second criteria for delivering the schedule information for non-televised events from the at least one selected non-television-related information source; **providing the user with an opportunity to enter scheduling information for an event personal to the user; providing the user with an opportunity to select a delivery scheme from a plurality of delivery schemes for delivering the personalized schedule information, wherein the personalized schedule information includes the television program listings for the television-related events based on the first specified criteria, the schedule information for non-televised events based on the second specified criteria, and the user entered scheduling information**; generating the personalized schedule information; and delivering the personalized schedule information to the user based on the delivery scheme selected by the user as set forth in independent claims 1, 12 and 23. Claims 1-2, 4, 12-13, 15, 23-24, 26 and 34-45 are allowed because of the combination of other limitations and the limitations listed above.



The examiner finds the Applicant's arguments on pages 13-15 of the Remarks filed on 08/08/2006 to be persuasive. The Applicant argued in substance that the combination of prior art of records fail to disclose the features of the invention including providing the user with an opportunity to enter scheduling information for an event personal to the user; providing the user with an opportunity to select a delivery scheme from a plurality of delivery schemes for delivering the personalized schedule information, wherein the personalized schedule information includes the television program listings for the television-related events based on the first specified criteria, the schedule information for non-televised events based on the second specified criteria, and the user entered scheduling information, as claimed in the invention to provide a scheduling system in which a user can select a delivery scheme from a plurality of delivery schemes for delivering personalized schedule information, wherein the personalized schedule information includes the selected television program listings based on first specified criteria, the selected schedule information for non-televised events based on second specified criteria and the user entered scheduling information which are all delivered and displayed in the personalized schedule information (**see Remarks filed on 08/08/2006, pages 13-15**).


6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should clearly labeled "Comments on Examiner's Amendment".

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quang N. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3886.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's SPE, Rupal Dharia, can be reached at (571) 272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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